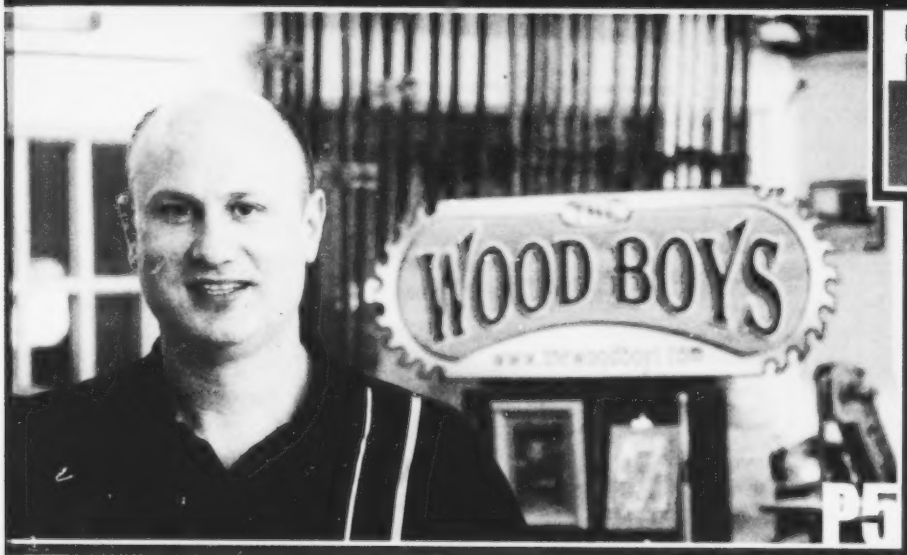
COMMUNITIES AT WORK

ISSUE 6 SUMMER 2007



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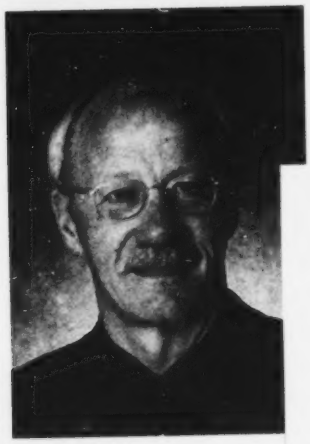


June 2007

Minister, Regional Economic and Co-operative Development

The Government of Saskatchewan's 2007-08 budget was all about making life better for people in Saskatchewan by building on our values and on the strength of our growing economy. I believe that its investments will provide the foundation for growing a stronger and even more prosperous provincial economy, while ensuring a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan citizens.

For example, the new Graduate Tax Exemption offers new graduates of accredited post-secondary institutions $100,000 in tax-free income during their first five years of employment in Saskatchewan. Combined with the continued post-secondary tuition freeze, and the creation of even more training spaces, this program will make Saskatchewan an even more attractive place in which young people can study and start their careers.

The budget also provides $107 million in education property tax relief, and record investments in our province's highways and infrastructure. This includes a record $127.3 million in revenue sharing for municipalities, $58.2 million for municipal infrastructure, and $40 million to sport, culture, and recreation facilities through the Building Communities program. Furthermore, the province's investments in highways fall under the Transportation for Economic Advantage initiative, which commits an unprecedented $5 billion investment over the next 10 years to fundamentally realign Saskatchewan's transportation network to meet the current and future needs of our thriving export-based economy.

The province is already feeling positive momentum from the corporate and business tax cuts which began last year, and which will continue to be phased in this year. Last year was a record-breaking year for our oil and gas industry. We have more jobs than we have trained people to fill them. Building permits and housing stats, both traditional measures of economic strength, are up. Just recently, TD Economic predicted that Saskatchewan's economy would outpace Alberta's this year. There's no denying that our economy is red-hot.

What's more, the most recent Statistics Canada quarterly population estimates show Saskatchewan's population on the rise. It's getting harder and harder to open a newspaper or turn on the radio without hearing about an ex-pat coming home to Saskatchewan, or about somebody moving here to take advantage of our quality of life and our cost of living!

At the heart of our provincial budget is a belief that we can continue building a strong provincial economy, and also recognition that the benefits of our strong economy must absolutely be felt by our people.

As the new Minister of Regional Economic and Co-operative Development, I look forward to working with my team and with communities throughout Saskatchewan to help them capture the potential that exists in their regions. Community engagement is an integral part of this process. If you have any questions or would like any more information, please don't hesitate to contact one of our regional offices, listed on the back cover of this newsletter.

Lon Borgerson

IDEAS PERCOLATING TO GROW REGIONAL ECONOMIES

At meetings held throughout the province this spring, hundreds of interested stakeholders shared their ideas on ways to support and strengthen the province's regional economies.

Saskatchewan Regional Economic and Co-operative Development (RECD), along with REDAs throughout the province, sponsored the meetings in Prince Albert, Rosetown, Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, North Battleford, Weyburn, Tisdale and Yorkton.

Each regional work session had three components. James Gollub, Senior Vice President of Global Economic Development at ICF International, introduced new principles for building a high performing region, drawing from 25 years of experience around the world. Doug Elliott of QED Systems and publisher of the SaskTrends Monitor then presented his analysis of that region's economy, examining composition and changes over time. Gollub facilitated a highly participatory process to help stakeholders in the room share and consider how well their economy has been performing overall. Participants identified the economic engines that powered their region and explored the advantages that support industrial growth.

Participants shared their views on developing Saskatchewan's regional economies at a series of meetings held earlier this year.

Each session concluded with Gollub asking each region: are you ready to undertake a collaborative regional strategy and what is needed to enable that to take place?

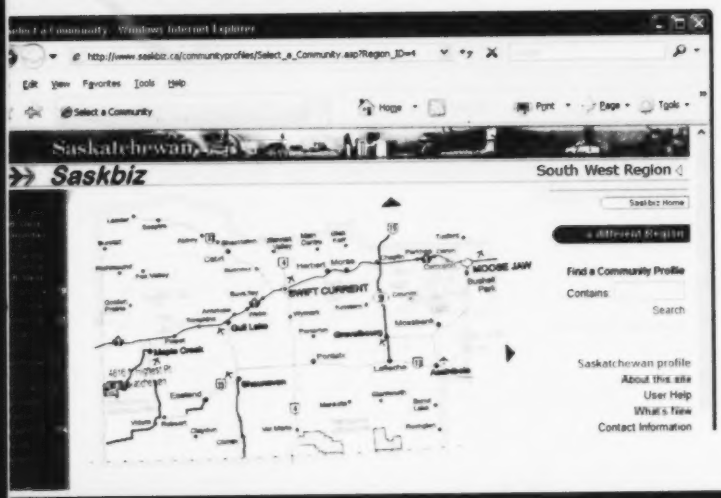
"Everyone is important to the economy," Gollub said.

"Every regional business or public institution's decisions define how enterprise forms, expands or is attracted. All markets are about recognizing and exchanging value. For that reason, collaboration is the hallmark of a high performing regional economy."

James Gollub's presentation and Doug Elliott's analysis of the competitive advantages of each region are available on RECD's website www.recd.gov.sk.ca/.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Contact an RECD regional office listed on the back cover.



MEET US IN THE HEART AT EDAC 2007!

saskatchewan
EDAC 2007

We invite you to "Meet Us in the Heart" for the *Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC) National Conference* to be held in Saskatoon from September 15-18, 2007.

At this year's annual *EDAC* Conference, you will have the opportunity to learn from the experiences of economic development professionals and experts, share your own exciting success stories, create new networks and partnerships, and rekindle relations with friends and colleagues.

The program for *EDAC 2007* features keynote addresses by Pamela Wallin, Dr. Patrick Moore and Mark Partridge, as well as other nationally recognized and regional experts, with a focus on the three Conference Tracks: *Cultural Diversity, Progressive Regional Economies, and Technology, Innovation and Industry*.

Register now for this exciting opportunity to join other leaders in learning the latest on helping the economic development growth of your community. *See you in Saskatoon this September at EDAC 2007!*

Early Bird Deadline: July 13th, 2007. Please visit **www.edac.ca** for a full Conference Brochure and up to date Agenda at a Glance which highlights the learning objectives of each breakout session.

USEFUL ECONOMIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.SASKBIZ.CA

Finding comprehensive economic development information about any Saskatchewan community or region is just a click away on the Internet at www.saskbiz.ca.

This website provides key information quickly to potential investors seeking to develop businesses in Saskatchewan. The mapping capabilities of the website provide users with a unique tool for retrieving information and data for the smallest geographical areas possible, such as a 50 kilometre radius, and also for a variety of regional boundaries.

The analytical functions are convenient and easy-to-use, yet extremely powerful in providing information to the user.

"I found the stats very helpful when putting together and updating our business plan," said Paula Woodhouse, co-owner of The Giggle Factory in Saskatoon. "It made it easy and saved valuable time in gathering the information we required in regard to our target markets and demographics. I didn't have to look elsewhere - all I needed was right in front of me!"

The website is being used more and more each day. There were 114,786 website visits in 2006/07, up from 41,131 in 2005/06.

Regional Economic and Co-operative Development (RECD) is conducting a survey with key stakeholders to obtain feedback on the usefulness and effectiveness of the website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Call Elaine Unrau, RECD, at 933-5749; or
- Visit www.saskbiz.ca.

HOME ACCESSORIES WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH!

Robin and Randy Tremblay are brothers who turned a part-time business to help their families cope with rising inflation in the 1990s into a full-time family business.

Robin Tremblay with the computer that allows The Wood Boys to cut intricate shapes in a variety of wood products marketed under the SaskMade label.

"We started this business as a way to supplement our incomes and it just evolved from there," explained Robin Tremblay, who was a television engineer for 18 years in Regina before joining forces with his brother in Saskatoon to create their business called The Wood Boys.

They began by building a very limited number of decorative wood shelves in their own garages. They now have two production shops: one in the Regina area and the other in the Saskatoon area, which are equipped with routers, a laser engraver, vinyl cutters, a large format digital printer and a dry mounting laminating press.

The Wood Boys, who employ two full-time and up to eight part-time and seasonal staff, are capable of handling any size of order, from individual requests to mass production of thousands of items. In 2005, they earned the contract to make approximately 12,000 frames for Saskatchewan Centennial graduates.

The Wood Boys are members of the Saskatchewan Made program. SaskMade registers individuals and companies that are manufacturing value-added product(s) with over 50 per cent Saskatchewan content. The primary thrust of the program is for identification and promotion of Saskatchewan manufactured goods.

About 100 stores from British Columbia to Ontario carry The Wood Boys product line, including 14 locations throughout Saskatchewan. In addition, they direct market at 14 retail shows and two wholesale shows each year across Western Canada

In 2005, the brothers launched a website at www.thewoodboys.com, and opened an on-line store the following year.

From the original decorative wood shelves, The Wood Boys have expanded their product line over the years to include promotional items, home and cottage signs, word and letter frames, as well as home décor items.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call Diane Phillips, RECD, at 787-4707 for information on the SaskMade program;
- Call Robin Tremblay, The Wood Boys, at 775-3531; or
- Visit www.thewoodboys.com.

REDAs

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES UNLEASHED – CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

RECD is pleased to announce that it will be entering into a unique-to-Saskatchewan partnership arrangement with the Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF), the Business Mentorship Institute (BMI) and seven Small Business Loans Associations (SBLAs) from throughout the province. This partnership will give qualifying youth between the ages of 18-34 access to a maximum of $30,000 in business loans, ranging from start-up to capital financing, business mentoring for two years, and training.

Founded in 1996, the CYBF is a national charity providing start-up mentoring, financing and business resources for young people. BMI was established in 2005 to support business development and entrepreneurship through mentorship. The YOU initiative was launched in 2004 in Saskatchewan as part of the SBLA program to support capital financing and training for young entrepreneurs.

The seven SBLAs will be the front line agencies responsible for co-ordinating with all of the above agencies to ensure young entrepreneurs receive access to the financing, mentoring and training that they require to become successful business people.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.recd.gov.sk.ca; or
- Contact Larry Caderma, Regional Program Co-ordinator, RECD, at 787-7207; or
- Assiniboia Business Development Co-operative, 642-5339;
- Midwest Regional Economic Development Authority, 948-2295;
- Cornerstone Regional Economic Development Authority, 453-6097;
- Dinsmore Small Business Loans Association Inc., 846-4321;
- Southwest Regional Economic Development Authority, 778-4240;
- Duck Mountain Loans Inc., 542-3806; or
- Naicam Business Opportunity Co-operative, 874-2125

1. Prince Albert	953-4372	15. Gateway	435-3177
2. Entrepreneurs 2000	882-1300	16. Cornerstone	453-6097
3. Southwest	778-4240	17. Red Coat	648-3525
4. Northwest	236-2407	18. South Parkland	728-6878
5. Long Lake	946-2223	19. Moose Jaw	693-7332
6. Saskatoon	664-0723	20. Mid Sask	867-9553
7. Etomami Valley	865-3356	21. Border	843-3296
8. West Central	463-1997	22. Mainline	696-2550
9. Carlton Trail	682-2631	23. Yellowhead	743-5177
10. Touchwood	723-4688	24. Regina	522-0227
11. Good Spirit	783-7332	25. Cypress Hills	297-2566
12. North East	862-6732	26. Prairie to Pine	892-2544
13. Midwest	948-2295	27. Big Gully	893-4156
14. South East	842-8001	28. Battlefords	446-7506

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.recd.gov.sk.ca or
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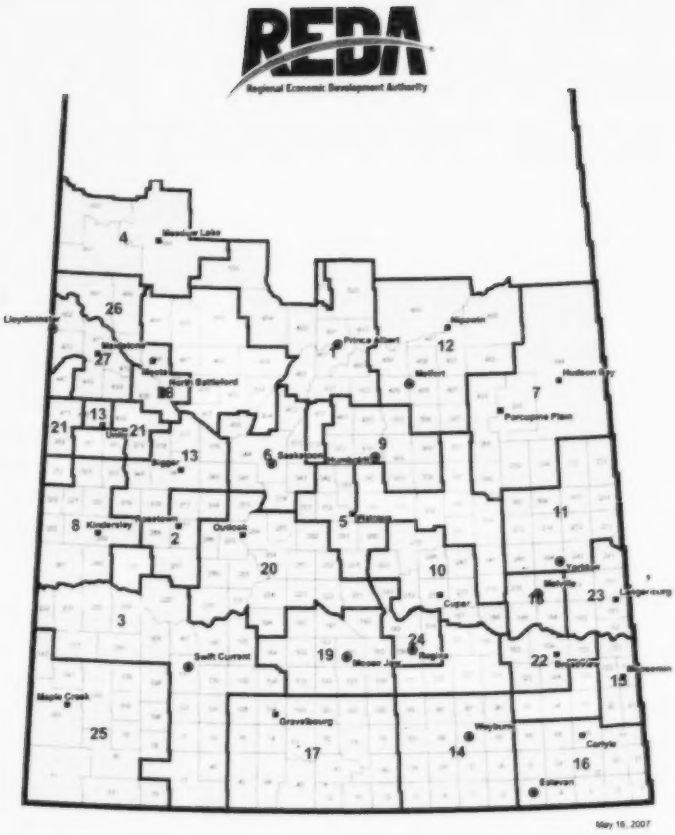
- Assiniboia Business Development Corporation 642-5339,
- Midwest Regional Economic Development Authority, 948-2295,
- Connections Regional Economic Development Authority, 463-1997,
- Entrepreneurs Small Business Loans Association, 882-1300,
- Southwest Regional Economic Development Authority, 778-4240,
- Cypress Mountain Lions Inc., 342-2500, or
- Nations Business Opportunity Corporation, 873-2125.



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YOUTH PROGRAM LEADS TO FULL-TIME JOB

Jaylene Hansen calls the REDA Youth Employment Program a fundamental part of her career path.

Jaylene Hansen graduated twice in a little more than one year.

The first graduation was from the University of Regina with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. Then, she moved from an intern position into a full-time job as an economic development officer.

"The REDA Youth Employment Program (YEP) has been a fundamental part of forming my career path," explained Hansen, who now is the Economic Development Officer for the Town of Oxbow and the Rural Municipality of Enniskillen.

"Being a part of the REDA Youth Employment Program enabled me to actively participate in the economic development field, gaining valuable experience working with two regions – the Cornerstone REDA and South Parkland REDA."

Oxbow and the Rural Municipality of Enniskillen are now members of Cornerstone Regional Economic Development Authority (REDA) where Hansen interned.

"I again have the opportunity to work with Cornerstone REDA to work towards our common goals!"

Hansen joined the Cornerstone REDA, based in the southeastern community of Carlyle, after graduating from university in 2004. As an intern, her duties included completing profiles on four communities and conducting research on how to start a community foundation. She obtained another YEP position in 2005 with the South Parkland REDA in Melville. Her experience included writing grant applications for a community daycare and being an active member of the local committee that formed Blue Sky Bio-Fuels.

The REDA Youth Employment Program, available exclusively to the province's REDAs, was launched in 1998. It is designed to support two key components of the provincial government's economic strategy: small business/economic development, and training, mentoring, and employment opportunities for youth in the field of economic development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call Linda Mack, RECD, at 637-4505; or
- Call Jaylene Hansen, Town of Oxbow, at 483-5271.

IMPROVING THE WOOD RIVER

Wood River Riparian Authority's Shelley Hirstwood works with producers such as Larry Bekker, who was the first participant in the initiative.

Producers whose farm land is within the Wood River Watershed in southwestern Saskatchewan have been learning about unique ways to make their operations more environmentally sustainable for the past two years.

"An essential part of the Wood River Riparian Authority is to work with local farmers in the watershed to help design a farm plan that focuses on water quality and the riparian area," said Shelley Hirstwood, who works for the authority through the Gravelbourg economic development office.

A riparian area is the transition zone between land and water, providing many valuable benefits to the environment and the local farmer. This includes storage and recharging of ground water reserves and protecting stream banks from erosion.

"Farmers in the watershed can access incentive funding through the Canada-Saskatchewan Farm Stewardship Program for wintering site management and riparian area management projects," Hirstwood said. "Everyone in the watershed is eligible for this funding through the Wood River Riparian Authority, even without completing an Environmental Farm Plan."

Some of the riparian-friendly practices covered by the funding include cross fencing to manage grazing, alternative watering systems, portable windbreaks and planting of forages or shrubs to establish riparian areas.

"Through this program, initiated by the Red Coat REDA, there has been a growing awareness of the impacts of agriculture and a desire to address those impacts," she said.

Hirstwood has been busy conducting workshops and presentations throughout the region since April 2006 to raise awareness about the benefits from improving riparian buffers along the Wood River. Grain and pulse crop growers, as well as livestock producers in the area who attended the sessions, have become active in implementing some of the ideas suggested by the Wood River Riparian Authority.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Call Barb Field, RECD, at 694-3623; or
- Call Shelley Hirstwood, Wood River Riparian Authority, at 648-3525.

ATOMIC SPORTS OFFERS AFFORDABLE PRODUCTS IN MEADOW LAKE

Owner James McKee (right) with employee Les Ellis says the business plan developed by the local REDA was extremely helpful in getting started.

Affordable prices, combined with a large selection of products, has helped Atomic Sports become a big hit with residents of Meadow Lake and the thousands of visitors who flock to the northwestern Saskatchewan community for outdoor sports.

"People living in the area and those seasonal visitors can't believe our amazing selection and low prices!" said James McKee, one of the four owners of the store that opened in 2005.

Pricing is important for Atomic Sports, because many of the seasonal visitors to the area come from larger communities where there's significant competition in the retail trade. It's also important because Atomic Sports is trying to dispel the misconception of local consumers that "the city is cheaper and has a better selection." The proof is on the price tag.

Atomic Sports offers a full range of products for customers, from hockey equipment and camping gear to outdoor activewear. The store is an ideal fit for the lifestyle of the people who live or come to play in the area.

The Town of Meadow Lake is in the centre of what was once a vast glacial lake. The area is dotted with lakes, and the gently rolling meadow land around the town merges with mixed-wood forests. Hunters tracking bear, deer and moose can stock up at Atomic Sports. So, too, can anglers who come to the area looking to land lake trout, northern pike or walleye.

The Northwest Regional Economic Development Authority (REDA) developed a comprehensive business plan for the store in 2004. Owners James and Coral McKee and Scott and Jodi Budd say the plan was extremely helpful when starting up the business.

Atomic Sports, which now employs three full time and three part-time staff, complemented by hands-on owners, likes to give back to the community. They are active and supportive of the region's sports and recreation organizations, in both volunteer and financial capacities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- *Call Christa Watson, RECD, at 446-7664;*
- *Call the Northwest REDA at 236-2407; or*
- *Call Atomic Sports at 236-3288.*

AGRICULTURE ECONOMY DIVERSIFYING IN EAST-CENTRAL SASKATCHEWAN

The Etomami Valley REDA has recognized agriculture as an economic strength in their region, and is working towards adding value to the agricultural products the region produces.

For several years, the Etomami Valley REDA worked with a group of local producers known as the Plains Livestock Hog Diversification Committee to attract a hog barn to the region. The hog barn would provide producers with a good local market for their feed grains and provide jobs. They were successful in attracting Big Sky Farms, which built five hog barns and a feed mill in the region.

"Our committee owes a big part of our success in attracting Big Sky Farms to our area to the Etomami Valley REDA," said producer Tom Lindenback, who was the secretary on the Plains Livestock Hog Diversification Committee. "The REDA supplied us with office personnel and funding to support that person in handling all of the necessary financial matters involved in our project."

In 2004, the REDA held an Ag Diversification Conference in Kelvington called "New Directions in Agriculture." The conference was aimed at giving producers ideas on how to add value to their own farming operation, and included topics from on-farm meat packaging to operating a bed and breakfast operation as part of a farming operation.

While the producer committee no longer exists, many of its members are part of Plains Livestock Inc., which is working towards constructing a feedlot in the Porcupine Plain area. They have raised the minimum capital and are planning to begin construction later this year.

The Etomami Valley REDA has been very successful at working with community leaders to help develop projects that will create lasting benefits for the producers and the economy in the region.

The Etomami Valley REDA is definitely part of a regional community at work!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Call Warren McLeod, RECD, at 953-3226; or
- Call the Etomami Valley REDA at 865-3356; or
- Call Chris Grisdale, Town of Porcupine Plain, at 278-2262.

The Board of Plains Livestock Inc. (right) works closely with the Etomami Valley REDA in developing projects that will create lasting benefits for producers and the regional economy.

SOOTHING SALVE IS GOOD FOR WHAT AILS YOU!

Sandra Clark is carrying on a family tradition selling Manitou Mineral Salve, a product patented in 1882 and used for decades to treat a wide range of personal ailments from cold sores to psoriasis.

The salve is made from the minerals contained in the water of Little Manitou Lake near Watrous in central Saskatchewan.

In the early 1930s, Clark's grandparents came to Manitou Beach on the advice of a doctor in Rochester, New York. Clark's grandmother had very bad psoriasis. After using Manitou Mineral Salve and swimming in the lake, she was no longer bothered by psoriasis.

Ben and Jackie Clark, Clark's parents, began selling the salve in the 1940s and acquired the business in 1955. Clark turned to the Long Lake REDA in 2003 for help when she decided she wanted to carry on the family tradition, but was short of cash and business expertise.

"The REDA is someone you can trust which is really helpful and excellent for starting out running your own business," she said. "We've spent lots of time speaking and working with the REDA which has been a big help."

Clark accessed the Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) program administered by Long Lake REDA to start Manitou Mineral Salve.

She makes the salve by hand using the same recipe that helped her grandmother. Sales have grown by more than 30 per cent a year. The salve is available at nine Saskatchewan locations, four in Alberta, two in Manitoba and one in British Columbia. She has also developed brisk mail order business through which she has sold to customers in Germany and Japan.

The unique chemical properties of the minerals in Little Manitou Lake are thought to have powers to cure eczema, psoriasis, mosquito bites, cold sores, burns, cuts and infections.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Call Daniel Bean, RECD, at 787-6179;
- Call Linda Welk, RECD, at 787-7154 for more information on the SBLA program;
- Call Sandra Clark, Manitou Mineral Salve, at 946-4020; or
- Visit www.manitoumineralsalve.com

Sandra Clark (left) and her mother Jackie, with help from their local REDA and SBLA program, are carrying on a family tradition and sharing the benefits of Little Manitou Lake's healing minerals.

With help from the SBLA and RECD, owners Tammie McCumber (right) and Paula Woodhouse (with daughter Tasha) have grown to keep up with demand for their fun and unique products.

THE GIGGLE FACTORY: A FUN PLACE TO SHOP

Paula Woodhouse recalls exactly where she and Tammie McCumber were when they agreed to name their new business The Giggle Factory. "We were being silly driving around Circle Drive when we came up with the name," she said. "We had no doubt it was the right name."

The Giggle Factory began in 2002 as a home-based business making children's craft kits, and evolved into a retail location in downtown Saskatoon that specialized in fun the following year. The store offers unique, high quality toys and games for toddlers, and children's and infant products at affordable prices.

Customer service and quality is No. 1 on their priority list. They offer a gift registry for expectant parents and also a delivery service for those unable to enjoy the experience of visiting the store in person.

The Giggle Factory also provides a child's "birthday in a box" and rents giant-sized garden games for any kind of party or function.

Theme days at the store are augmented by face painting, clowns and animal visits. A children's identification clinic has also been held at The Giggle Factory.

Woodhouse and McCumber are constantly thinking, quite literally, "outside of the box" and have many of their products available for children to try and parents to see.

An in-store play area is available for the children to enjoy while their parents shop.

To keep pace with the demand for their products, The Giggle Factory obtained a Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) loan in 2005 to increase inventory. The owners also frequently tap into Regional Economic and Co-operative Development services, including the business infosource, library, research and guest advisor services.

Woodhouse and McCumber have successfully registered The Giggle Factory as a trademark.

The on-line store, located at www.gigglefactory.ca, allows customers to shop by age and activity, by brand or by price.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call Michele Grella, RECD, at 933-5751;
- Call Paula Woodhouse or Tammy McCumber, The Giggle Factory, at 975-9630 or visit www.gigglefactory.ca; or
- Call Linda Welk, RECD, at 787-7154 for more information on the SBLA program.

SOUTHWEST NETWORK SERVICES SOLVES COMPUTER PROBLEMS

Jamie Coulter valued his independence, so he didn't hesitate when he had an opportunity to buy a computer business in Swift Current after it had been open for less than one year.

Since acquiring Southwest Network Services in 2006, Coulter has tripled sales and built it into a thriving company. Coulter chose the southwest, and in particular Swift Current, because he and his wife wanted to raise their three young children in the same community where their parents live.

He had worked as a network administrator with REM Enterprises for one year, then attended the University of Lethbridge to study computer science for two years before the business opportunity became available.

Coulter provides computer services and repair, which includes problems with software and hardware, error messages and computer upgrades. He also sells Dell products and is an A+ certified service technician.

Coulter loves doing business in Swift Current because it is a small enough community that word of mouth goes a long way. As a result, he hasn't even had to advertise.

Customers include small and medium-sized businesses throughout southwestern Saskatchewan, as well as individual home users. Clients appreciate the timely, on-site support he provides. To get started, Coulter accessed the Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) program through the Southwest Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Inc.

"SBLA has helped me to achieve my dream of owning my own business," he said. "Without their help, I would still be working for someone else and dreaming about owning a business."

Coulter said he would definitely use the SBLA program again and recommends it to entrepreneurs who are having problems finding capital.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call Dianne Sletten, RECD, at 778-8416;
- Call Linda Welk, RECD, at 787-7154 for more information on the SBLA program;
- Call Jamie Coulter, Southwest Network Services, at 773-8122 or visit www.swns.ca; or
- Call the Southwest Centre for Entrepreneurial Development at 773-4030.

Jamie Coulter says the SBLA program helped him realize his dream of owning a business.

GREENHOUSE IN WINDTHORST A GROWING SUCCESS!

Graham and Rod Pusch have green thumbs that produce vegetables and jobs near the Village of Windthorst, 140 kilometres southeast of Regina.

Two full-time and seven part-time people work at the Pusch Bros. Greenhouse, located five kilometres northeast of Windthorst.

Linda Campbell now manages the greenhouse, which includes a 9,000-square-foot facility that is used 12 months of the year and another 3,000-square-foot building that is operational from April until November.

"We start everything ourselves from seed," said Campbell. "We have one crop per year of cherry tomatoes and hot house tomatoes, and usually three or four crops of English cucumbers."

Being part of the Saskatchewan Made (SaskMade) program has helped consumers identify the greenhouse products. SaskMade registers individuals and companies that are manufacturing value-added product(s) with over 50 per cent Saskatchewan content. The primary thrust of the program is for identification and promotion of Saskatchewan manufactured goods.

"We put the SaskMade label on all of our cucumbers, each hot house tomato and all of our packages of tomatoes, which has helped our sales," Campbell said. "It really is time consuming for us, but it really distinguishes our products from the others in the market place."

Because the Pusch Bros. products are herbicide and pesticide free, consumers now are asking for them by name at grocery stores, Campbell said.

The Pusch Bros. products are now available in all grocery stores along the No. 1 TransCanada Highway between Whitewood and Wolseley, and provincial highway No. 48 from Langbank to Regina.

In addition, Campbell said the cucumbers and tomatoes are available in one Regina restaurant and grocery store, as well as a large cafeteria.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call Diane Phillips, Saskatchewan Made Program, RECD, at 787-4707; or
- Call Linda Campbell, Pusch Bros. Greenhouse, at 224-4955.

Brothers Graham (center, left) and Rod (Center, right) Pusch use the SaskMade label to distinguish their vegetables from others on the market.

COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Phone	Web/Email	Location
June 6-8	2007 Business Retention and Expansion International Conference	787-2201	brei@brei.org www.brei.org	Regina
June 18-22	APEC Training and Certification Program for Small Business Counsellors	1-866-654-4499	www.growsmallbusiness.ca	Provincial
Sept. 11	GST New Registrant Workshop	780-3893	Gary.Wilson@cra-arc.gc.ca www.cra-arc.gc.ca	Provincial
Sept. 15-18	Economic Developers Association of Canada National Conference	244-5521	admin@edac.ca www.edac.ca	Saskatoon
Oct. 14-20	Co-operatives Week	787-0190	wayne.thrasher@gov.sk.ca	Provincial
Oct. 14-20	Small Business Week	1-877-232-2269	www.bdc.ca	National
Oct. 18-19	Labour Attraction & Retention Conference	778-4243	www.southwestreda.ca	Swift Current

Southwest REDA in partnership with the Swift Current Labour Attraction and Retention Committee (LARC) are excited to announce they will be hosting the Provincial Labour Attraction and Retention Conference Oct. 18-19 in Swift Current. The Think Future Conference will give employers the latest tools to address the changing labour market. Speakers will provide strategies for attracting and retaining aboriginal, immigrant, school aged youth, young professionals and the disabled workforce. A trade show will highlight resources for employers to utilize. To find out more about this exciting event or to register call Southwest REDA at 306 778 4243 or check out www.southwestreda.ca.
Think Future.
October 18-19, 2007 swift current
labour attraction & retention conference

Saskatchewan Regional Economic and Co-operative Development

Toll free phone: 1-800-265-2001
Website: www.recd.gov.sk.ca

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1202 - 101st Street
NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9
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1084 Central Avenue
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Fax: (306) 778-8526

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23 Smith Street West
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Fax: (306) 786-1417

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SASKBIZ

Website: www.saskbiz.ca